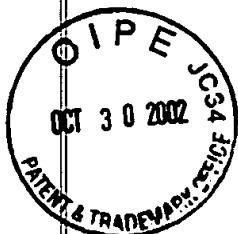


#7/A



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7099.1606

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
 )  
Richard M. RATLIFF et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2161  
 )  
Application No.: 09/961,419 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
 )  
Filed: September 25, 2001 )  
 )  
For: AVAILABILITY BASED VALUE )  
 CREATION METHOD AND )  
 SYSTEM )

**Box Non-Fee Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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NOV 04 2002  
**GROUP 3600**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend this application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 40 and 41 and add claims 59-88, as follows:

40. (Amended) The method of claim 39, wherein the received information from the database is based on information received with the second request.

41. (Amended) A network node that provides information, comprising:  
  
a receiving device for receiving a request for information associated with  
  
an item;

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10/31/2002 MNEKOWEN 00000088 09961419

01 FC:1202  
02 FC:1201

540.00 OP  
168.00 OP



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7099.1606

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Richard M. RATLIFF et al.

Application No.: 09/961,419

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For: AVAILABILITY BASED VALUE  
CREATION METHOD AND SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2161

Examiner: Unassigned

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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Technology Center 2100

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment. The items checked below are appropriate:

The claims are calculated below:

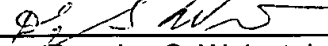
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	88	-	58	30	x \$ 18	\$ 540.00
Indep.	8	-	6	2	x \$ 84	168.00
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim(s)					+\$280	0.00
Subtotal						\$ 708.00
Reduction by 1/2 if small entity						- 0.00
TOTAL						\$ 708.00

☒ A fee of \$708.00 to cover the cost of the additional claims added by this reply is enclosed.

☒ A check for \$708.00 to cover the above fee is enclosed.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Dated: October 30, 2002

By:   
Douglas S. Weinstein  
Reg. No. 43,249

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